Export of Iron and Chrome Ore

1237. SHRI NARENDRA PRADHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total quantity of iron ore and chrome ore exported and the amount of foreign exchange earned from such export; and

(b) the State-wise break-up of the revenue earnings in respect thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEDGE): (a) The total quantity of iron ore and chrome ore exported and the amount of foreign exchange earned by MMTC during 1997-98 is given below:

(Qty; Lakh Tonnes; Value; Rs. Crores; Provisional)

	Qty	Value
Iron ore	113.75	828.19
Chrome ore	2.70	94.20

(b) MMTC maintains portwise break-up of Iron ore exports. Iron ore exports from various ports in the last two years are follows:

	1996-97		1997-98 (Prov.)	
Port	Qty.	Val.	Qty.	Val.
Vizag	37.85	284.95	37.63	303.90
Madras	46.41	310.16	55.87	390.12
Paradip	10.90	68.44	9.88	63.47
Goa	4.09	20.65	10.37	70.70
Hazira	—	—	—	—
By Road (Nepal)	0.04	0.10	—	—
Total	99.29	684.30	113.75	828.19

(Qty:— Lakh Tonnes/Value; Rs. Crores)

Export of Chrome ore during the last two years is as follows:

	1996-97		1997-98	
Port	Qty.	Val.	Qty.	Val.
Paradip	2.92	127.35	2.70	94.20

(Qty.: Lakh Tonnes/Value; Rs. Crores)

Revamping of Patents Bill

1238. DR. B. B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are reworking on the Patents Bill;

(b) if so, how the proposed Bill will differ from the earlier one;

(c) whether Government have set up an expert group to have a fresh look at various pending issues related to Intellectual Property Rights (IPRS); and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANKDER BAKHT): (a) and (b) No final decisions have been taken

by the Government regarding amendment to the Patents Act, 1970.

(c) and (d) The Government has set up an Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Prof. Raja Ramanna, Member of Parliament, to advise Industry Minister on matters pertaining to Intellectual Property Rights and related issues.

Revival of M/s. Reyrolle Burn Ltd.

1239. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether BIFR has sanctioned the revival scheme for M/s Reyrolle Burn Limited (now R.B.L. Ltd) a subsidiary of Burn Standard Ltd.;

(b) if so, the date of the sanctioned scheme;

(c) the date fo implementation of scheme by all concerned; and

(d) the present status of implementation vis-a-vis capital expenditure, nqn-plan loan and need based working capital by Government and the Bank?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) BIFR issued sanctioned scheme of RBL Ltd. on 16.10.97. BIFR modified the scheme on request of the Government of India on 4.5.1998. Administrative appoval for implementation of the scheme was issued on 29.5.98.

(d) As per the sanctioned scheme, Government has already released Rs. 248 Lakh during 1997-98 for capital expenditure, non-plan loan and working capital. United Bank of India is yet to implement the scheme.

Shifting of Patent Office to New Delhi

1240. SHRI DEBABRATA BISWAS: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the patent office is being shifted from Calcutta to New Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that there has been strong opposition to this move from several quarters including the employees and workers;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the West Bengal Government have also lodged strong opposition to this move; and

(e) if so, whether the Central Government are proposing to reconsider the issue and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) Some references have been received against shifting of the Patent Office from Calcutta. The Government is taking steps for restructuring, steamlining, modernising, computerising and re-orienting the operations in the patent offices in the country with a view to providing better services to the scientific, industrial and research communities and the other users of the system.

उत्तर प्रदेश में विकास केन्द्र

1241. **श्री मनोहर कान्त ध्यानी:** क्या उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने उत्तर प्रदेश के लिए आठ विकास केन्द्र स्वीकृत किए हैं;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि इनमें से एक विकास केन्द्र पौड़ी गढ़वाल जिले में कोटद्वार नगर के निकट एक स्थान के लिए स्वीकृत किया गया है;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि उत्तर प्रदेश में कुछ लोगों के पहाड़-विरोधी रवैये के कारण इस केन्द्र का स्थान बदल दिए जाने का विचार है;

(घ) क्या केवल इसके कारण ही भारतीय औद्योगिक विकास बैंक ने इसे मंजूर नहीं किया है;